

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 78, No. 6 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887 JANUARY 1, 2015

## Big-ticket Replacement Items Funded for Two City Buildings

by Kathleen Gallagher

On the City of Greenbelt’s list of New Year’s resolutions for 2015 are two significant items. One will make the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center (GAFC) lighter and brighter. The second item makes the Community Center more comfortable for users and staff. The city’s Building Capital Reserve Fund totals \$1.01 million for these projects: \$650,000 for replacement of the GAFC roof and \$360,000 for long-needed improvements to the HVAC system in the Community Center.

The Building Capital Reserve Fund was established as a separate account in 2004 for the purpose of setting aside funds for replacement or upgrade of such major systems in city-owned facilities as mechanical, plumbing, electrical, HVAC and roofing. In this year’s budget document, City Manager Michael McLaughlin proposed using \$758,000 of Program Open Space funding to cover 75 percent of the cost of both projects.

Council has taken the first steps to authorize expenditure of these funds. At its November 24 regular meeting, it introduced for first reading a resolution to approve contracting for replacement of the roof over the indoor pool with a new Kalwall roof by Structures Unlimited, Inc. (SUI)

of Manchester, N.H., at a cost of up to \$570,000. On December 3, council held a worksession to be briefed on both projects by representatives of SUI on the pool roof and by representatives of Mendoza, Ribas, Farinas and Associates (MRFA), who assessed needs for the Community Center HVAC system in 2012.

At its regular meeting on December 8, council then adopted the resolution for the indoor pool roof contract on a five to one vote and voted unanimously to award a contract of \$56,750 to MRFA to provide needed engineering work prior to preparing bid materials for the HVAC project.

**Indoor Pool Roof**

Both the roof over the indoor pool and the surrounding flat roof, 23 years old, need to be replaced. Although the Kalwall roof over the pool is deteriorating, it has exceeded its anticipated life span of 15 to 20 years. The adjacent flat roof, which has begun to leak during heavy rains, has also exceeded the average life span. The SUI contract covers only the pool area roof.

The city has been pleased with the Kalwall roof which is SUI’s own product. There is also great appreciation for the service the company has provided since the 1991 installation. The new Kal-

wall roof will be twice as energy efficient as the old one. It will require less maintenance, not needing the periodic gel coating that had been necessary for the current roof.

The new roof, furthermore, will allow more natural light into the GAFC and will not itself change color. Not only will this improve the appearance of the facility but will also permit added reductions in energy costs by taking greater advantage of the newly-installed energy harvesting lights at the indoor pool.

For some folks the big question will be “How long will the pool be closed?” According to Assistant Recreation Director Joseph McNeal, the indoor pool will be closed for about four to six weeks with the impact mitigated by overlapping the closure time with the opening of the outdoor pool. Thus there will be only two to three weeks when neither pool is available.

For purposes of budgeting, the cost of replacing the flat roof adjacent to the pool roof has been estimated at about \$102,000 and recommendations for contracting that work will be brought later by staff to the city

See FUNDING, page 6

## The News Review Tackles 21st Century Technology

by Cathie Meetre

Over the last year, the Greenbelt News Review (GNR) has begun a concerted effort to utilize 21st century technology more systematically and effectively, recognizing the sea change critical to survival of all print-based media from the New York Times on down.

Visible and behind-the-scenes GNR improvements accomplished in 2014 include the on-line publication of the archives from 1937 to today (courtesy of Eric Zhang, Joan Falcão and Tom Jones) and the implementation of a prototype city-wide events calendar (by Tom Jones). Both are just a click away from the home page GreenbeltNews-Review.com.

With a substantial assist from Diane Oberg, the paper now uses cloud solutions for internal file exchange and automated backup; at the start of 2015 it will launch new email addresses using GNR’s own domain (e.g. XXXX@greenbeltnewsreview.com). The new domain-based addresses will allow GNR to select internet service providers independently of its GNR email address and to route incoming mail more effectively.

Growing out of the original email and online processes implemented several years ago by Eileen Farnham, Oberg and Falcão, GNR’s initiative was instigated by Marat Moore. The process began with a series of focus groups and community discussions to pick initiatives that give optimal return on investment of time and money.

**Web-based Process**

In addition to the initiatives already in use, work has begun on a web-based, automated submissions process for incoming copy, including ads, letters, photos, community events and other contributions to replace email input for regular contributors. The web-based system will assure regular contributors that their submissions have been received, thus reducing the probability of loss or mishandling via manual email-based processing steps.

Longer term goals include an expanded and more interactive online presence for the paper (in addition to the current PDF), a more vibrant home page design and an update that improves quality and fills in

See NEWS REVIEW, page 2

## Artful Afternoon Sunday

On Sunday, January 4, guests of all ages can participate in a craft workshop and enjoy a program of family-friendly films. Most activities are free. Times vary for individual activities.

From 1 to 3 p.m. make colorful pom poms and incorporate them into a variety of crafts, from cuddly characters to bracelets and wreaths. This workshop will be led by Celestine Ranney-Howes, an artist-in-residence at the Greenbelt Community Center.

From 2 to 4 p.m. enjoy a series of short films featured in the 2014 Utopia Film Festival. “The Arctic Fox,” an animated short by Taiwanese filmmaker Annlin Chao, tells the adventurous tale of a fox that escapes from the zoo. Neil Christopher from Canada offers another animated North Pole yarn in “The Orphan and the Polar Bear.” Featured works by young filmmakers include Emma Penaz Eisner’s surrealistic stop-motion animation “The Long Night” and Malone Lumarda’s meditative live action piece “Black Rock Creek” depicting a young girl’s mystical walk. The program also includes Dustin Grella’s “Animation Hotline,” a series of micro-animations based on crowd-sourced

voicemail messages.

From 1 to 4 p.m. enjoy a variety of additional activities at your leisure. The Community Center’s nine artists-in-residence will host an open house and sale. Visitors will be inspired by their work in many styles and media and find unique gifts for all occasions. Participants will also be able to view the Greenbelt Museum’s current exhibit, “Greenbelt: The First 75 Years,” exploring the city’s history through an interactive timeline. For more local history, the Greenbelt Museum’s historic house is at 10-B Crescent Road, across the street from the Community Center; tours are available between 1 and 5 p.m. for a nominal fee.

For more creative fun, register for winter visual and performing arts programs for all ages. Recreation Department programs are open to both residents and non-residents of Greenbelt. New classes begin in January, including ceramics, painting and drawing, several styles of dance and more. The winter activity guide is available online at greenbeltmd.gov/arts. Greenbelt arts programs are sponsored in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.

### What Goes On

**Sunday, January 4**  
**1 to 4 p.m.,** Artful Afternoon with Crafts, Dance and Short Films. (See details on this page.)  
**Monday, January 5**  
**8 p.m.,** Worksession, Economic Development Report by Sage Policy Group, Municipal Building. Live on Verizon 21 and Comcast 21 and streaming at greenbeltmd.gov/municipality.  
**Tuesday, January 6**  
**7 p.m.,** Arts Advisory Board Meeting, Community Center. Discussion includes future operation of the Greenbelt theater and carving of a standing tree trunk.  
**7 p.m.,** Public Safety Advisory Committee Meeting, Community Center  
**Wednesday, January 7**  
**8 p.m.,** Public Hearing, Greenbelt Theater Operation, Community Center

**Christmas Tree Recycling:** See list of drop-off points in the city ad on page 5. Drop-off points are marked with a small Christmas-tree-shaped sign. Trees will be picked up through February 6.

## Top Stories of 2014

*The News Review presents highlight reviews of major stories of the past year. They were prepared by Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell, James Giese, Thomas X. White, Diane Oberg, Cathie Meetre and Kathleen Gallagher.*

### FBI Headquarters

The General Services Administration (GSA) began a search for an appropriate location for a consolidated headquarters for the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in early 2013. Early in 2014, federal, state, Prince George’s County and city officials attended a rally at the University of Maryland to promote support for GSA to select the Greenbelt Metro site for the proposed new headquarters.

By mid-summer the city received notice that the GSA had selected the Greenbelt Metro site on a short list of three potential sites for the relocation. Competing with Greenbelt are sites in the suburban Springfield area (Fairfax County, Va.) and Prince George’s County at the former Landover Mall. Including the Landover site in the list was a surprise which may offer an advantage to the state of Maryland over the Virginia location. On the other hand, the support of the Greenbelt site and the Landover site may be split among federal, state and local officials.

In the fall of this year, GSA sponsored four scoping meetings in the region outlining the various attributes or issues associated with each site. The Greenbelt scoping meeting was described as the best attended; the attendees included local developers, Greenbelt city councilmembers and Greenbelt residents. Some concerns were noted regarding the issue of flood plain areas near the Greenbelt site, as well as transportation impacts for the adjacent Beltway and feeder roads.

Comments on the scoping session materials were solicited by the end of November and the next steps would be the issuance of a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and its comment period when the GSA would prepare a final EIS. GSA projections were that a draft EIS would issue for comment in the spring of 2015 and the final EIS a year later in spring 2016.

The city council and its neighbor cities of College Park, Berwyn Heights and New Carrollton remain strongly in support of

See TOP STORIES, page 7







# Community Events

## At the Library

English-Spanish Preschool Storytime. Ages 3 to 5, Monday, January 5, limit 20 people. Stories, fingerplays and songs will be presented in English and Spanish. Pick up tickets at the information desk.

Meet the EmPOWER Rangers! Tuesday, January 6 at 3 p.m. Bring the family and join one of the Rangers for a fun interactive presentation about our energy choices and what we can do today to make our homes and neighborhoods cleaner and greener. Learn how to reduce energy use, save money and safeguard the earth.

Let it Snow – with Lace. Teens and up, Tuesday, January 6 at 6:30 p.m. is limited to seven participants. Learn the basics of shuttle tatting which is a type of lacemaking. By learning one stitch, participants can create their own snowflakes. Registration is required.

Books at Bedtime: Infants and Toddlers Program. Tuesday, January 6 at 7 p.m.; limit 20 people. Start the bedtime routine at the library with sing-a-longs, stories and quiet play activities that encourage engagement between caregivers and children. The focus is on age-appropriate social, emotional, communication and literacy skills. Pick up a ticket at the information desk before the program. Presented by the Prince George’s County Infants and Toddlers Program.

Encourage children to make reading a positive experience by bringing them to the library’s storytimes. Stop by the information desk on the day of each storytime to pick up free tickets.

## Arts Advisory Board To Meet January 6

The Arts Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, January 6 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center. Topics of discussion are expected to include the future operation of the Greenbelt theater and a proposal to carve a standing tree trunk outside the Community Center.

For additional information, contact Nicole DeWald, staff liaison: [ndewald@greenbeltnmd.gov](mailto:ndewald@greenbeltnmd.gov) or 240-542-2057.

## Co-op Patron Day, Demos, Wine Tastings

There are wine tastings on January 9, 16 and 23, 4 to 7 p.m. Enjoy a sample of Co-op’s selections and save five percent on tasting wines. This month’s Healthy Happy Hour is on January 14, 5 to 7 p.m. and will feature a toasty Spiced Citrus Grape Punch. Patron Appreciation Day and the Seasonal & Savory Food Demo and Wine Tasting is on January 28, 5 to 7 p.m. Staff will serve a Warm Spaghetti Squash Salad and pair it with features from Co-op’s wine department.

Visit the Co-op’s website-[greenbelt.coop](http://greenbelt.coop) for information on this month’s specials and events.

More  
Community Events  
are located  
throughout the paper.

## GHI Notes

Thursday, January 1, OFFICE CLOSED (New Year’s Day). Emergency maintenance will be available. Friday, January 2, OFFICE CLOSED. Emergency maintenance will be available.

Monday, January 5, 7 p.m. Pre Purchase Orientation, Board Room

Tuesday, January 6, 8:30 a.m. Yard Lines Committee meeting, GHI Library

6 p.m., Brenda Lewis Retirement Dinner, Sir Walter Raleigh Inn

Thursday, January 8, 7:30 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting (Open Session), Board Room

## Greenbelt Climate Action Network Meets

Come to the first Greenbelt Climate Action Network gathering of 2015 to learn about the top environmental priorities for the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis. Every year, Citizens Campaign for the Environment meets throughout the fall and identifies four top priorities that all of the coalition organizations will work on together. This year’s picks are:

1. Strong healthy budget
2. 40 percent renewable portfolio standard
3. Cumulative impact
4. Honeybees and Food Protection Act

Dave O’Leary from the Maryland Sierra Club will join GCAN for an overview. There will be time for questions and discussion. Dave will also give a fracking update.

As always, the last portion of the evening is reserved for local announcements and updates on Greenbelt sustainability projects.

For more information, contact Lore Rosenthal, [lore@simplicity-matters.org](mailto:lore@simplicity-matters.org), 301-345-2234

## Computer Club Meets

The Greenbelt Computer Club will hold its first meeting of 2015 on Thursday, January 8 at the Greenbelt Community Center, Room 112 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to our discussions of computers and electronic devices.



From left, Councilmember Judith Davis; Mayor Emmett Jordan; Councilmember Silke Pope; Santa Claus; Linda Dreyer, Marketing Manager, Combined Properties; Councilmember Edward Putens; and Mrs. Claus at Santa’s Brunch for nearly 60 children at Greenway Center on December 20.

## Annual Brunch with Santa Held at Greenway Center

The annual Brunch with Santa at Greenway Center took place Saturday, December 20. The shopping center works closely with Greenbelt CARES to identify those in need. This year they were able to make Christmas happen for nearly 60 children – the largest turnout ever. In addition to receiving a gift from Santa that they had requested, the kids could obtain gifts for family members from a store set

up for the event. Each child was assisted in selecting items, which were then gift wrapped for them. Parents accompanying the children received Safeway gift cards, ensuring that the families would have a holiday meal. Safeway also donated dozens of bags of food distributed at the event. Mayor Emmett Jordan and several city councilmembers interacted with the guests throughout the two-hour event.

**ACADEMY  
STADIUM  
THEATERS**  
6198 GREENBELT ROAD  
CENTER COURT OF BELTWAY PLAZA  
301-220-1155  
*For directions visit  
[www.academy8theaters.com](http://www.academy8theaters.com)*  
*Most features are \$5.50  
all day on Tuesdays; add \$2.00 for 3-D  
R = ID Required  
(!) = No passes, (!!) = No passes weekend  
\* Not part of the morning and Tuesday  
discount shows*

Call the theater  
for show times.

Utopia Film Festival Presents  
Sunday, Jan. 4th & Wednesday, Jan. 7th  
Beginning at 8 PM

“Poverty Inc.” and “Arctic Fox”

On Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATe)  
Comcast 77 & Verizon Fios 19 Channels

**Holy Cross  
Thrift Store**

Every Thursday  
10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women,  
men and children!  
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.


6905 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

**NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS**  
*PRELIMINARY AGENDA*  
**GHI BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS’ MEETING**  
**Thursday, January 8, 2015**  
GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 7:30 PM

**GHI Key Agenda Items:**

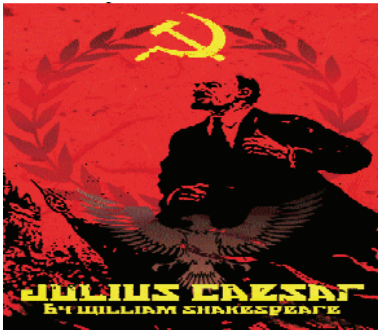
- Yard Line Re-certification: 3H & 5A Crescent Road
- Proposed Removal of Two Cherry Trees in Garden Side of 4D Southway
- Buildings Committee Recommendations Re: Crawl Space Improvements
- Proposed Agenda for January 25th Town Hall Meeting
- Purchase of a Tractor for Maintenance Department, 2nd Reading
- Tub Reglazing Contract, 2nd Reading
- Waste Disposal Contract, 2nd Reading

Regular Board meetings are open to Members  
For more information, visit our website - [www.ghi.coop](http://www.ghi.coop)




To request a sign language interpreter for this meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, or go to the GHI Office (One Hamilton Place) or contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

**Greenbelt Arts Center  
COMING SOON**

**Julius Caesar**  
  
by William Shakespeare  
A guest production from The Rude Mechanicals  
Directed by Jaki Demarest  
Jan. 9 and 10 at 8pm and Jan. 11 at 2pm  
Ticket prices: \$20, \$16 Students/Seniors/Military, \$12 Youth

**COMING SOON**  
Tales of Terror: Poe’s Birthday Bash - Jan. 16-18, 2015  
The Renaissance Man Clybourne Park - Jan. 30-Feb.21 - Directed by Bob Kleinberg

For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or  
email: [info@greenbeltartscenter.org](mailto:info@greenbeltartscenter.org) or  
**BOOK TICKETS ONLINE** at [www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)  
123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770 • Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP





# A Veterans Day Thank You for All You Have Done

by Kathleen McFarland

Twice every year on Memorial Day in May and on Veterans Day in November, Greenbelt’s Post #136 of the American Legion hosts a ceremony at Roosevelt Center to honor America’s veterans, both living and dead. Thanks to the Post’s efforts, and aided by the City of Greenbelt and our councilmembers, the memories of those who fought and died for our country are kept alive.

The Legionnaires have been hosting this ceremony for many years. I remember because my daughters, who made up most of the Junior Auxiliary back in the 60s, were there every year, in their blue skirts and white blouses and shepherded by their mentor, Rusty Beeg, who is still active in the Auxiliary. Daughter Anne was even “Miss Poppy” at age 5 or 6; she still says it is her “claim to fame.”

This year’s November 11 ceremony was blessed by beautiful weather and a large attendance. I’m saddened every year though that more faces of the World War II veterans are gone.

This year I missed Eugene Stratchko, a faithful presence in past years, who died September 1, and pioneer Greenbelter Bob Sommers, a pillar of Post #136 and the Greenbelt Museum, who was not well enough to attend. Last year, Bob placed the Legion’s wreath at the stone memorial up the hill.

For those who may not have noticed, the memorial lists the names of Greenbelters who died in World War II. A bench was recently added to honor the late Joe Natoli of Generous Joe’s.

### The Program

Commander Michael Moore led the program. First the Star Spangled Banner was sung by the Hometown USA Chorus, spiffy in dark suits and red-and-white striped ties, as people waved flags provided by one of the Legionnaires.

Moore then introduced the mayor, city councilmembers, Legion officers and other guests, and accepted several proclamations from the city and county. Of special interest to me was the opportunity to see our new County Councilmember Todd Turner and hear him address the crowd.

Moore pointed out former commander Marjorie Gallun, a Marine veteran, seated in the front row of the audience. Now 93 years old, Marge was the first woman commander of Post #136.

After an inspiring speech by commander Moore and additional patriotic selections by the chorus, four wreaths were laid at the memorial: from the Legion, the Auxiliary, the Sons of the American Legion and the City



Commander Michael Moore of American Legion Post #136 addresses the audience on Veterans Day.

of Greenbelt. Once the wreaths were placed by representatives of each organization, there was a gunfire salute and then the stirring sound of Taps, floating over the quiet scene, played by Steve Matera, a member of Post #136 and a former trumpet player with the U.S. Marine Corps Band.

Moore then invited everyone to a buffet lunch at the Post Home, as happens every year, providing a chance to mingle with the Legionnaires, our mayor, city councilmembers and ordinary citizens.

Chaplain emeritus Sam Hofberg, after decades of being the server of the food at all these occasions, was happy this year to oversee the event from his electric wheelchair.

### A Star Post

Greenbelt’s American Legion Post #136 is a star post of the State of Maryland. Some years

ago, their own Rick Santos was National Commander. Sandi Dutton, whom some of us have known since she was a Junior Auxiliary member, has been National Commander of the Auxiliary. Other members have held state offices.

Many people do not realize that the Post Home is more than merely a neighborhood pub and restaurant. Through their state and national offices, the Legion supports many educational and health programs for veterans and their families. The Post also supports local causes, such as the “money-bunny” raffle, which is held every year by the Auxiliary to fund a scholarship for a nursing student from one of our local schools.

These memorial events are part of the Legion’s mission to help and remember veterans and to honor the flag.

# Annual Winter Concert Showcases GES Students

by Li’l Dan Celdran

Students from Greenbelt Elementary School’s (GES) band, chorus and orchestra showcased their instrument playing and singing talents at their annual winter concert on December 17 at the school. More than 200 people attended the concert.

The string orchestra performed holiday favorites such as Good King Wenceslas and Jolly Old St. Nicholas and traditional tunes such as Old MacDonald. The orchestra is made up of about 33 students, some in their second year of instrumental music guided by their teacher, Karissa Strawley.

After a short scenery change, a band of about 47 student musicians played two versions of a nursery rhyme: Mary Had a Little Lamb and Mary Had a

Cool Lamb. The band members and Conductor Strawley were fashionably decked out in winter hats. The band played on with Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star composed by Wolfgang A. Mozart. The band finished their set with Jingle Bells, the lively tune originally written for Thanksgiving. People loved it and wanted it for a Christmas song. The song is not about either holiday, but about fun on a sleigh.

GES chorus started their set with a Latin hymn, Dona Nobis Pacem (Latin for grant us peace) set as a round and sung a capella. This was followed by Light the Candles, a song for Hanukkah, and Nia (which means purpose in Swahili), a Kwanzaa song,


See **GES CONCERT**, page 7



**Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church**  
**40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt**  
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410  
**Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor**



**Worship Service 10 a.m.**  
**Celebrate Epiphany & Communion**



“Take from this world only to the measure of your needs, and forego that which exceedeth them. Observe equity in all your judgments, and transgress not the bounds of justice, nor be of them that stray from its path.” - Baha’i Writings

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**Greenbelt Bahá’i Community**  
1-800-22-UNITE  
[Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com](mailto:Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com)

301-345-2918  
[www.greenbeltbahais.org](http://www.greenbeltbahais.org)


**GREENBELT**  
BAPTIST CHURCH



**Come worship God with us!**  
**Sunday School 9:45AM**  
**Worship Service 11:00AM**

**101 Greenhill Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770**  
**(301) 474-4212 [www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)**

**ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770**  
**301-474-4322**



**Mass Schedule:**  
**Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.**  
**Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.**  
**Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.**  
**Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.**  
  
**Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe**

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



**1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)**  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org](http://www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org)  
  
Sunday Worship  
10:15 a.m.  
  
Glennys Grindstaff, Pastor



**Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church**  
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)



*Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community*



January 4, 10 a.m.  
**Be Ours a Religion?**  
Leo Jones, guest speaker;  
with Van Summers, Worship Associate;  
Dayna Edwards, Director, Multigenerational Religious Exploration; and guest pianist Deni Foster  
Unitarian Universalists have embarked upon a seemingly endless search for an “elevator speech” that explains Unitarian Universalism.

We have become defensive about our faith, and have engaged in an unnecessary, and sometimes painful, attempt to prove to others and ourselves that ours is a religion.

Why and how can we move forward with pride in our faith and represent Unitarian Universalism without apology?



**Catholic Community of Greenbelt**  
**MASS**  
Sundays 10 A.M.  
Municipal Building  
**ALL ARE WELCOME.**



**Mishkan Torah Congregation**  
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children’s service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM  
Children’s Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)  
Conservative and Reconstructionist





Condolences to the family and friends of A. David Spevack, 76, of Gambrills, Md., who died December 24, 2014. He was a longtime member of Mishkan Torah Synagogue, serving two terms as president of the congregation.

Sympathy also to the family and friends of Mary L. Matyas of Westchester Park, 93, who also died on December 24. She was a longtime member of St. Hugh of Grenoble parish and the Ladies of Charity.

Congratulations to V. Beth Kuser Olsen on receiving her Ph.D. in marine, estuarine and environmental science from the University of Maryland. A neighborhood graduation party took place on December 21 in 6-Court of Plateau Place.



Marbury Wethered (left) and Jan Garland (right) join Beth Kuser Olsen in celebrating her degree.

Here's wishing a very Happy and Healthy New Year to all Our Neighbors!

Send us your reports of new babies, awards and honors to share with our readers. To send information for Our Neighbors, email us at [newsreview@verizon.net](mailto:newsreview@verizon.net) or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

— Kathleen McFarland

New Deal Café Events

The cafe will be closed on Thursday, January 1.

Friday, January 2 John Guernsey will play jazz and blues piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Fast Eddie & The Slow Pokes will bring their blend of Chicago, West Coast, Swing and Jump Blues to the Cafe from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 3, The TV John Variety Show will be from 11 a.m. until noon. Bruce Kritt plays classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m. Guernsey plays classic American standards on piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. D.C.-based rock 'n' roll cover band 49 Cent Dress will perform from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. The bands this weekend are sure to kick the new year off right.

Join the Deaf Brunch on Sunday, January 4 from 10:30 a.m. until noon. In the evening, By & By offer up traditional and original Bluegrass from 5 to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, January 6, Ruthie and the Wranglers host The New Old Jamboree with old songs, new songs and special guest performers from 7 to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, January 7 local singer/songwriter Michael Kelly performs from 7 to 9 p.m.

**Toastmasters Meet**

The next meeting of the Greenbelt Toastmasters Club will be on Wednesday, January 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall of Greenbelt Community Church at Hillside and Crescent Roads.

hAPPY NEW YEAR!



City Information

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF January 5-9

Monday, January 5 at 8:00pm, **WORK SESSION: Economic Development Report by Sage Policy Group** at Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv)

Tuesday, January 6 at 7:00pm, **ARTS ADVISORY BOARD** at Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. Topics of discussion will include the future operation of the Greenbelt Theater and a proposal to carve a standing tree trunk outside of the Community Center. Info: 240-542-2057.

Tuesday, January 6 at 7:00pm, **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE** at Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Wednesday, January 7 at 8:00pm, **PUBLIC HEARING-Operation of Greenbelt Theater** at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

All meetings listed are open to the public. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

ARTFUL AFTERNOON Sunday, January 4 at Community Center MOVIES AND MORE!

Free fun for all ages. Craft workshop, 1-3pm with Celestine Ranney-Howes, Artist in Residence. 2-4pm: selected short films from the Utopia Film Festival including The Arctic Fox, The Orphan and the Polar Bear, and more! For more information contact Nicole DeWald at 301-397-2208.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, and Youth Advisory Committee

For information call 301-474-8000.

Visit our adoptable pets at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter

550-A Crescent Road 301-474-6124

Open Wednesdays 4-7pm and Saturdays 9am-12pm



Junior is sweet and loves to be held and petted. He is polydactyl (he has extra front toes). Some people consider polydactyl cats to be good luck! Junior is looking for a forever home.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

WANTED: WELCOME PACKET MATERIALS!

The City of Greenbelt will be compiling Welcome Packets for new residents in January. Local businesses, groups, organizations are encouraged to provide materials to include in these packets. Flyers, coupons, promotional items, etc. Please provide 300 of what you would like to include to the city office, attention Beverly Palau, at 25 Crescent Road by Friday, January 16. If you have any questions, please contact [bpalau@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:bpalau@greenbeltmd.gov) or at 240-542-2026.



VISIT GREENBELT CITYLINK AT [WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV](http://WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV) [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CITYOF-GREENBELT](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CITYOF-GREENBELT) [TWITTER @CITYOFGREENBELT](https://twitter.com/CITYOFGREENBELT)

LEAF VACUUM SCHEDULE

The City Public Works Department will again collect loose leaves from the following areas with the leaf vacuum from November 3, 2014 until January 16, 2015. We remind residents to rake the leaves to the curb, but not into the street, and to remove all sticks and stones from the pile as these can damage the machinery. Areas to be collected will be posted as in past years. We also remind residents not to park in front of leaf piles. Info: 301-474-8004

January 5 - 9 and 12-16: All areas

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Your discarded Christmas tree can be recycled. The Public Works Department will pick up trees at the locations listed below and process them through the wood chipper. The chips will be used as mulch around trees and flower beds. Please bring trees to any of the following areas up until February 6, 2015.

- GHI
- Ridge Road, 73 Court (opposite playground)
  - Plateau Pl and Ridge Rd (corner on playground side)
  - Research Road and Hillside Road (corner)
  - Ridge Road, 44 Court (Area near playground)
  - Eastway and Crescent Road (corner)
  - Ridge Rd, 21 Court (across from Green Ridge House)
  - Crescent Rd and Ridge Rd (playground at junction)
  - Parkway (corner across from 58 Court Crescent Rd)
  - Parkway (corner across from Community Church)
  - Southway, 7 Court (playground at Little League field)
  - Ridge Rd, 11 Ct and 13 Ct area (area between courts)

- Boxwood
- Ivy Lane and Lastner Lane (playground)
- Lakewood
- Greenhill Road and Crescent Road (by Baptist Church)
- Charlestowne Village and Charlestowne North
- Property adjacent to Attic Park
- University Square
- University Square (in front of swimming pool)
- Lakeside North
- Near Swimming pool

- Franklin Park
- Franklin Park Community Building

- Greenbriar
- Between 7708 & 7710, Hanover Parkway
  - Between 7728 & 7730, Hanover Parkway
  - Between 7826 & 7828, Hanover Parkway
  - Between 8003 & 8009, Mandan Road

- Glen Oaks
- Between 7903 & 7905, Mandan Road
  - Between 7509 & 7511, Mandan Road

- Hunting Ridge
- Between 6936 & 6978, Hanover Pkwy

- Windsor Green
- Court entrances, picked up by Windsor Green staff
- Greenbrook Village and Estates
- Southeast corner of Ora Glen Dr. and Matthew Drive
  - Southeast corner of Hanover Pkwy and Greenbrook Dr
  - In front of barricade at Mandan Rd and Matthew St

- Greenwood Village
- Opposite 8175 Mandan Terrace
  - Opposite 7646 Mandan Road
  - Opposite 7648 Mandan Road

- Greenspring and Greenspring II
- Southwest corner of Megan Lane and Craddock Road
  - Park area between 7926 and 8006 Greenbury Drive
  - Corner of Spring Manor Drive and Springshire Way
  - Open area between 6519 and 6515 Springcrest Drive

- Belle Point
- Corner of Vanity Fair Drive and Prince James Way
  - Open area between 7800 and 7801 Vanity Fair Drive
  - Open area beside 7962 Vanity Fair Drive

- Greenbelt Village
- Open area between 6729 & 6715 Village Park Drive
  - Open area across from 6632 Lake Park Drive
  - Open area across from 6510 & 6512 Lake Park Drive



FUNDING continued from page 1

council. An additional \$18,000 has been budgeted for both parts of the roof for possible architectural drawings, permits and electrical work.

At \$690,000, the combined total exceeds the amount budgeted in the Building Capital Reserve Fund by \$40,000 but other funding, including additional Program Open Space monies, would be available to support the project.

HVAC at the Center

Anyone who spends time in the Community Center is all too aware of the vagaries of the heating and air conditioning system in the building, which was installed in 1996. A multitude of system components provide climate control to the building’s 55,000 square feet of space, including fan coil units in room system boilers, refrigeration chillers, air handlers, pumps/circulation systems and ductwork. For a number of reasons, including not only age but also improper design or installation, some components are deficient.

In 2012 the city contracted with MRFA to assess and make recommendations on the building’s HVAC system. City staff agreed with their analysis and recommendations for replacement or repair of various components to improve effectiveness, energy efficiency and user comfort.

Staff recommended exclusion, however, of one large item, a central energy management system. This alone would have cost \$250,000, for now cost-

prohibitive. The combined cost for all other recommendations in the MRFA report would be \$368,000 and the city budgeted \$360,000 to begin the work this fiscal year. When combined with the \$56,750 for additional engineering services, the project would be nearly \$65,000 over the \$360,000 budgeted. The city will either look for other savings in the process of bid development or phase in the work over a longer period of time.

Complex Project

According to McNeal, this project will be complex. It will involve replacement of many pieces of equipment as well as installing new system elements not included when the building was renovated.

Planned improvements include replacing many fan coil units throughout the building, modifying air handling units and ductwork and to the hot water pump. Upgrades to the gym HVAC system and separation of the adult care space from the main system to improve system effectiveness are also planned.

Additional mechanical engineering services are still needed in order to proceed with development of bid specifications and documentation. Those plans and drawings will be submitted first to the Maryland Historical Trust for review for compliance with the trust’s easement on the facility. When that approval is gained, the project will move forward. The hope is that proposals to un-

dertake the work can be solicited by late spring of 2015, with work to begin in early fall of that year.

MRFA has worked for the city before in both the Aquatic and Fitness Center and the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. MRFA is experienced in school-like facilities around the state like the Community Center and the company previously worked on the new Greenbelt Middle School.

Council Questions

In response to questions from councilmembers at the worksession, McNeal said that Recreation Department staff would work to see that the impact on programming for city residents would be as minimal as possible while these projects are going on. He assured everyone, “Camp will go on!”

When these items came up at the regular meeting on December 8, all councilmembers except Edward Putens were present. The vote to adopt the resolution to have the Kalwall roof installed over the indoor pool carried on a five to one vote because Councilmember Rodney Roberts objected to council’s intention to fund much of the project using Program Open Space funds, which he thought were appropriately used only for land or outdoor recreational facilities, such as parks or playgrounds.

Other councilmembers disagreed. There is no open land to buy at this time, they said, and other types of recreational facilities, including building work, are

legitimate uses of state Program Open Space funding.

The vote to contract with MRFA of Rockville to complete the pre-bid mechanical engineering work for the Community Center HVAC system carried unanimously. Councilmember Judith Davis said she was impressed that the firm had taken into account in its evaluation every complaint she had heard about the HVAC over the years. Councilmember Silke Pope was also impressed with their ability to address questions at the worksession.

Roberts, however, insisted there had never been an adequate study of airflow through the ducts in the community center and recommended that there be a study on this issue. McNeal said he would talk with the engineers about doing so.

Winter Bird Walk

On Saturday, January 10 from 8 to 10 a.m. those age 8+ can search for birds in several refuge habitats on this guided hike. Field guides and binoculars are recommended.

Public programs at the Patuxent Research Refuge are free although advance registration is required by calling 301-497-5887. For more information visit the website at [fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent](http://fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent). The Visitor Center is on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

Doctors Hospital Offers Weight Loss

On Friday, January 9 at 8 a.m., Doctors Community Hospital will offer a free lecture on bariatric surgery and weight loss. The meeting will be at 8100 Good Luck Road, Professional Office Bldg., Suite 210. To register call 301-324-4968.

Dr. Hitesh Amin, medical director of the Bariatric and Weight Loss Center, will discuss how obesity is often linked to diabetes, sleep apnea, high cholesterol, high blood pressure and arthritis. Losing weight may reduce or eliminate the need to use some of the medications taken to manage such conditions. Attend this lecture to learn whether weight loss surgery is right for you.

Roaming Raccoons Program at Refuge

On Friday, January 9 at 10:30 a.m. to noon, ages 5 to 7 can discover the world of these mysterious masked mammals that roam our neighborhoods under the cover of darkness. Children can learn through hands-on activities and make a craft.

Public programs at the Patuxent Research Refuge are free although advance registration is required by calling 301-497-5887.

For more information visit the website at [fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent](http://fws.gov/refuge/Patuxent). The Visitor Center is on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

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+ A change in breast size or firmness

+ Nipple itching, burning, rash, turning inward or discharge
- + A warm area in the breast

+ Breast skin changes such as dimpling, a sore or a rash

+ Swelling in the armpit



Schedule your annual screening mammogram at Doctors Community Hospital’s Center for Comprehensive Breast Care. As the first such program in Prince George’s County, we welcome appointments Monday through Saturday. Also, we provide an experienced team of healthcare professionals, all digital mammograms and personalized treatment options.



Center for Comprehensive Breast Care  
8116 Good Luck Road  
Professional Office Building, Suite 110  
Lanham, Maryland 20706  
[DCHweb.org/breast](http://DCHweb.org/breast)

To schedule an appointment or request a free breast care educational brochure, call 301-DCH-4YOU (301-324-4968).



TOP STORIES cont. from page 1

the Greenbelt Metro site. They believe the location adjacent to the Greenbelt Metro, access to the I-95/495, with available housing and office development and proximity to the University of Maryland and other federal agencies offers the best choice for the GSA. Stay tuned.

Greenbelt Station South Core

By March construction was well underway for the first phase of residential construction in the South Core of Greenbelt Station in Greenbelt West, even as commercial and multi-use development of the North Core was kept on hold pending a decision possibly to relocate a new FBI headquarters facility there. Five condominium units and nine townhomes had already been sold in the South Core. In April, the Greenbelt City Council took an initial step to assist in financing public facilities there by adopting a resolution establishing a special tax incremental finance (TIF) district, in accordance with the 2006 agreement with the owners to have that property annexed to the city. The resolution sets forth a framework to provide public funds for construction of a north-south connector road from the Capital Beltway to Greenbelt Road (Greenbelt Station Parkway) at an estimated cost of \$8.4 million. If such financing is done (and other alternatives are being explored), such bonds could be paid off only from 50 percent of the increase in incremental tax revenues for the defined area resulting from the new construction and from a back-up special tax on properties in that area. At the end of the year, construction of housing continues.

Credit Card Fraud

In May, the Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy temporarily suspended all patron credit and debit card use after a possible security breach in its online payment system during the week ending May 23. Cynthia Comproni, treasurer-general manager of the Greenbelt Federal Credit Union, said that the credit union was not the point of compromise. The Greenbelt Police received in excess of 50 reported cases of fraudulent transactions, confirming there had been some irregularities. On June 3, the U.S. Secret Service took over the investigation. Greenbelters reported that duplicate false credit cards were being used in Maryland locations and as far away as Florida.

See TOP STORIES, page 8

GES CONCERT continued from page 4

were sung. Kwanzaa celebrates the fruits of the harvest and celebrates African ancestry. Before the final song, Miss Greenbelt, Kristin Beauchamp, spoke about her experience with the Miss Greenbelt pageant: “It is not a beauty pageant. It’s about education and becoming a better speaker.”

The singers ended with All I Want for Christmas is You, made famous by Mariah Carey. The song began with a duet sung by a chorus girl and boy. The chorus clapped their hands and encouraged the audience to do so, too. Some audience members were on their feet, clapping and foot tapping to the music. Towards the end of the number, the chorus members ran out into the audience – with everyone clapping and singing along. Returning teacher, Mr. Lee Gibbs, and Ms. Rachael Yokers, a new teacher to the GES family, professionally conducted the enthusiastic singers.

The students were smartly dressed in white shirts, black pants and shoes. Before each selection, two to four students announced the piece and gave some background information on the composer and song. Some selections were performed by the second year students who stood to be recognized. The music education department will host another concert in the spring. Parents and community members are invited.



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11						

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Greenbelt



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Fresh Value Pack Boneless Pork Sirloin Chops or Roasts	\$2 <sup>49</sup> lb.	Green Giant Prime Size Idaho Potatoes 5 lb. bag	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Pillsbury Crescent or Cinnamon Rolls 8-14 oz.	Banquet Meat or Fruit Pot Pies Assorted 7 oz.	Sea Best Frozen Bay Scallops
All Fresh Chicken	30% off	Fresh Crisp Apples Gala/Delicious/Granny Smith	\$1 <sup>29</sup> lb.	Turkey Hill Iced Tea or Lemonade 64 oz.	Turkey Hill Ice Cream Assorted 1.5 qt.	Louis Kemp Seafood Delights Assorted 8 oz.
Grocery Bargains					Grocery Bargains	
Starkist Solid White Tuna 5 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Ken's Assorted Salad Dressings 9 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE		Betty Crocker Meal Helpers Hamb./Chick./Tuna 5-12.2 oz.	Progresso Vegetable Classic Soups Select Varieties 18-19 oz.
Hunt's Canned Tomatoes Whole/Diced/Sauce 28-29 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Pennsylvania Dutch Egg Noodles Assorted 12 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE		Betty Crocker Cake Mixes Assorted 15.4 oz.	Angel Soft Double Size Roll Bath Tissue 4 roll pack
Deli		Bakery		Natural & Gourmet	Health & Beauty	Beer & Wine
Deli Gourmet Browned/Smoked Turkey Breast	\$4 <sup>99</sup> lb.	Fresh Store Baked Sourdough Bread loaf	\$2 <sup>99</sup>	Thai Kitchen Asian Noodle Bowls Assorted 2.4 oz.	Atkins Ready-to-Drink Shakes Assorted 4 pk.	Yuengling Beer 6 pk.-12 oz. cans
Cooper C.V. Sharp Cheese	\$4 <sup>99</sup> lb.	Fresh Store Baked Apple Pie 8 inch	\$3 <sup>99</sup>	Eat Well Gourmet Hummus Assorted 10 oz.	Suave Assorted Shampoo or Conditioner 12-18 oz.	Concha-Y-Toro Wines Assorted 1.5 Liter

Check out our **best buy \$avings** on thousands of items throughout the store. Look for the green **best buy** shelf tags in all departments. We reserve the right to limit quantities. No sales to dealers please. Co-op is not responsible for typographical errors. Other great weekly specials are featured in our 6-page full color ad flier inserted in your News Review.



# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to “Weekly Report” or [http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly\\_report.pdf](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf).  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

### Robbery

December 18, 7:35 p.m., 7800 block Vanity Fair Drive. A man walking to his vehicle was approached from behind by two men, one armed with a handgun. A robbery was announced. One of them threw the man to the ground and took his cell phone and money.

### Assault

December 20, 4:45 p.m., 6300 block Ivy Lane. A security officer was in his vehicle when a cab pulled up and the cabbie said he had just been threatened by his passenger after a fare dispute. As the security officer began to call police, the passenger exited the cab. A verbal altercation ensued. The passenger pulled an unknown object from his pants pocket, threatened the officer and fled on foot. He is described as a black man, 5’10” tall, 150 pounds, with hair in dreadlocks, wearing a navy blue hooded sweatshirt, dark blue jeans and black and white basketball shoes.

### Theft

December 22, 2:41 p.m., 7500 block Greenbelt Road. An unattended purse was taken from a shopping cart at Dollar Tree.

December 22, 8 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. An unattended purse was taken from a dressing room at Burlington Coat Factory.

December 23, 12:15 p.m., 6000 block Greenbelt Road. An unattended purse was taken at Marshall’s Department Store.

### Burglary

December 23, 3:30 p.m., 6200 block Breezewood Court. Money and two laptop computers were taken after entry was made, possibly through the sliding glass door.

### Vandalism

December 18, 10:30 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. The bedroom window of a residence was broken out.

### Vehicle Crime

A silver 2010 Toyota Highlander SUV with Md. tag 9BD3230 was stolen from the 7600 block Greenbelt Road. A woman reported that she was pumping gas at the Greenbelt Road Exxon station with the driver side door open and the key in the ignition. She heard the door close and saw a man inside her vehicle drive away.

A theft from vehicle occurred in the 7600 block Ora Glen Drive when an officer responded to a report of a suspicious person looking in vehicles. Upon officer’s arrival, he was flagged down by a citizen who said someone broke out a passenger window and took her purse. A

## Scammers Working Here in Greenbelt

The Greenbelt Police Department is investigating several incidents in which local businesses are contacted by people who wear shirts with the Pepco logo and claim to be from Pepco. They contact businesses by phone and in person to say money is owed to Pepco and if payment is not made promptly, the utilities will be shut off. The person claiming to be from Pepco tells the businessperson to purchase a Green Dot credit-type card in the amount owed and give the card number to them.

Pepco is not making these calls. Anyone having information related to this scam is asked to contact the Greenbelt Police Department at 301-474-7200.

short time later another person reported that a vehicle pulled up to the 7200 block of Mandan Road, where an occupant threw a purse to the ground and left the scene. The purse was recovered and the owner confirmed it was hers.

Six reports of thefts from vehicles involved the breaking of windows: Hanover Parkway near Mandan Road (wallet), 9100 block Edmonston Court (in-dash radio unit), 6300 block Golden Triangle Drive (clothing, headphones and GPS unit), 6100 block Greenbelt Road (money), 7800 block Walker Drive (clothing, shoes and a laptop computer) and in the 7800 block Hanover Parkway a window was broken but nothing appeared to have been stolen.

Other thefts from autos occurred in the 7800 block Mandan Road (two hubcaps) and 9000 block Breezewood Terrace (headlight cover and bulb). A purse was taken from an unsecured vehicle in the 6200 block Springhill Court.

Car registration items were taken in the 7200 block Hanover Parkway (rear tag, Md. 8BC4256), 7400 block Greenway Center Drive (rear tag Md. 1BB1427) and 6200 block Springhill Court (registration sticker).

### Vandalism

Three acts of vandalism were reported. In the 7800 block Mandan Road a passenger window was broken and paint was scratched, 9100 block Springhill Lane the driver side window was broken and in the 6200 block Springhill Drive two windows were broken and some of the contents of the vehicle were thrown on the ground

## City Awarded Grant For Veterinary Care

The City of Greenbelt has been awarded \$10,000 in a Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) Veterinary Assistance Grant from Banfield Charitable Trust. The grant provides funds to low-income households, the disabled and seniors. Residents from Greenbelt on public assistance programs, such as food stamps, Medicaid, Social Security, unemployment, non-commissioned active military and Maryland Energy Assistance, can apply for up to \$250 per pet, a two-pet maximum per household. All types of pets are eligible.

City residents must also meet the income threshold. For a one-person household, the maximum income must not exceed \$37,450. For a two-person household, the maximum income must not exceed \$42,800. Documents proving eligibility will be required to complete the application. Citizens may apply in person, or home-bound residents may call to arrange for a GAIL staff person to assist with the application process.

Christal Batey, the GAIL Resource Advocate, was encouraged by the grant award. “Many GAIL participants feel that their pets are their family. This grant helps seniors improve the quality of life for their pets, which in turn improves quality of life for them,” Batey said.

She cited the expense of veterinary care as a primary motivation for applying for the grant. “Pet owners love their pets. They so often choose health care for their pets, even if it means displacing their own care and needs,” she said.

### What Grant Covers

The Veterinary Assistance Grant covers basic, preventative and emergency care, including vaccinations. Extreme medical expenses will also be considered, though spay and neuter services are not eligible.

In the past, the City of Greenbelt has provided funds through programs such as Free Pet Food Pantry and Foods for our Four-Legged and Feathered Friends, a grant award for Green Ridge House residents.

The city has expanded its reach for veterinary care this year. With this extra funding, the city will be better able to subsidize pet care, as well as to work more directly with local veterinary businesses.

To apply for the program, visit the city’s website at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov), or call the GAIL Office at 301-345-6660, ext. 2012.

## TOP STORIES cont. from page 7

A security company began investigating the Co-op, performing an electronic forensic examination, checking hardware, software and procedures involved in making purchases.

First Data, the firm that processes the Co-op’s debit and credit card transactions, also checked out the system. Both investigations found no irregularities and no penetrations.

Nonetheless, the Co-op Supermarket beefed up its firewall, which now monitors every electronic communication coming into and going out of Co-op’s building.

By July 10, the Co-op had installed new software and processing equipment on all cash registers and check-stands. In a six-week period, the store experienced a five percent drop in sales, significantly impacting the financial statement. Some patrons have now determined that the safest approach in today’s market is a cash transaction.

### Historic Theater Renovation

After more than 10 years of delay, the proposed renovation of the Greenbelt theater got its footing at the end of 2013, making it onto the list of “top stories” of 2013. After faltering at the first meeting in January 2014, council took the first official step to negotiate for contracting services with the firm of Gardner and Gardner Contracting, LLC. The city announced that the theater would close in June for renovation of the lobby, ticket booth, concession area, restrooms and projection booth. The renovations would likely take six months.

That forecast was off by a few months due to Pepco’s delays with electrical upgrade needed for both the theater and the other tenants in the east building of Roosevelt Center. At this writing, the renovation is still not completed. The projected reopening is now slated for the end of February 2015.

In mid-December, council held a worksession to review three submitted proposals for potential operators of the theater when it reopens. Council selection of the operator for the reopened theater is tentatively slated for the last council meeting in January 2015.

During the closure, Greenbelt citizens, young and old, enjoyed several Saturday evening outdoor movies at the Roosevelt Center during the summer and into the fall, courtesy of the Department of Recreation.

### Rosedale Departs

In January, after 59 years of providing carnival rides and concession booths to the city’s annual Labor Day Festival, Rosedale Attractions marked the end of the Gaylin family’s long tradition with Greenbelt. The owner said it was a difficult decision, but in the end he decided to take the carnival to Chesterfield County Fair, a nine-day event in the suburbs of Richmond, which he said would provide substantial benefit to the business and to the family. The dates of the Chesterfield event conflicted with Greenbelt’s festival.

In June, Linda Ivy, chair of the festival committee, announced that Sherwood Amusements, Inc. had been hired as carnival operator for the 2014 festival.

In October, Ivy reported to city council that the Labor Day Festival weekend had presented few problems or complaints and that as a result, a three-year contract had been signed. City staff also said the festival had gone well and that the transition had been easy.

### Middle School Buildings

In 2013 the Prince George’s County Board of Education approved three uses for the old Greenbelt Middle School (GMS) building: the Robert Goddard French Immersion School, a large area for “swing space” for emergency relocation of schools and five rooms for rental to the City of Greenbelt. In March, it was announced that the swing space was being eliminated but that the five rooms would continue to be available for use by the city.

See TOP STORIES, page 11



## Greenbelt MakerSpace Tech Camps

Animation - Game Design  
MicroElectronics - Robotics

Pre-Register NOW at [MakerSpace125.org](http://MakerSpace125.org)

1	Spring Break	April 6-10
2	Summer A	July 13-17
3	Summer B	July 27-31
4	Summer C	August 10-14

We introduce kids to programming and makerspace activities using a wide variety of topics. Each student is allocated their own laptop and hardware kits.

Camps are 9:00 - 3:30 with before/after-camp care.

125 Centerway, Greenbelt Md, [admin@makerspace125.org](mailto:admin@makerspace125.org)

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